

## **WAUSAU DAILY HERALD**

**May 20, 2008**

### **Obey issues statement on Sen. Kennedy's brain tumor**

Congressman Dave Obey, the chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, released a statement this afternoon after reports that Sen. Ted Kennedy had been diagnosed with a malignant brain tumor.

"No one in the United States Senate is more beloved than is Senator Ted Kennedy because he cares so deeply for the well being of his fellow human beings. That is why the news of his illness is a body blow to all of us," Obey said in a press release. "Anyone who knows him will be praying for his full and complete recovery."

Kennedy has been hospitalized in Boston since Saturday, when he was airlifted from Cape Cod after a seizure at his home.

A cancerous brain tumor caused the seizure Kennedy suffered over the weekend, doctors said today.

"He remains in good spirits and full of energy," the doctors for the 76-year-old Massachusetts Democrat said in a statement.

They said tests conducted after the seizure showed a tumor in Kennedy's left parietal lobe. Preliminary results from a biopsy of the brain identified the cause of the seizure as a malignant glioma, they said.

His treatment will be decided after more tests but the usual course includes a combination of radiation and chemotherapy.

Kennedy, the senior senator from Massachusetts and the Senate's second-longest serving member, was re-elected in 2006 and is not up for election again until 2012.

Were he to resign or die in office, state law requires a special election for the seat no sooner than 145 days and no later than 160 days after the vacancy occurs.

-The Associated Press contributed to this story